

FROM THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH,  
SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY



Department of  
**Health, Social Services  
and Public Safety**

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Chair  
Committee for Health Social Services and Public Safety  
Room 412  
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Our Ref: COR/15/2016

Date: 19 January 2016

Dear

Thank you for your letter of 8 January 2016 regarding an amendment to Clause 1 of the Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill to amend the Tobacco Retailers Act (NI) 2014 to include those selling e-cigarettes.

I have considered this issue and have instructed the Office of the Legislative Counsel to draft an amendment, a copy of which is attached as an appendix to this letter. The draft amendment provides my Department with a regulation-making power in relation to the application of relevant provisions of the Tobacco Retailers Act to allow it to apply to retailers of nicotine products as well as tobacco retailers.

Given that the provisions contained within the attached draft amendment represent a change in policy, Executive approval is required before it can be tabled. It is my intention to seek this approval at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely

**SIMON HAMILTON MLA**

**Proposed amendment to the Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill**

**New clause**

After clause 2 insert-

**“Register of nicotine product retailers**

2A. The Department may by regulations –

- (a) amend the provisions of the Tobacco Retailers Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 (in so far as relating to the register of tobacco retailers) so as to apply them (with or without modifications) in relation to nicotine product retailers; or
- (b) provide for those provisions to apply (with or without modifications) in relation to nicotine product retailers.”

**Clause 3, Page 2, Line 21**

Leave out “or 2” and insert”, 2 or 2A”.